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**October 5, 2004**

**TO FAX #:** 703.872.9806

**CLIENT/MATTER #:** 219507-00077

**ATTENTION:**

**COMPANY:**

**FROM:** Jefferson Perkins

**RE:**

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OCT 05 2004 Attorney Docket No. 219507-00077

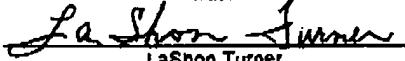
## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Dale C. MCCARTHY  
 Serial No.: 10/781,243  
 Filed: February 18, 2004  
 Art Unit: 2833  
 Examiner: not yet assigned  
 Confirmation No.: 3145

I hereby certify that this correspondence is  
 being transmitted via facsimile (703 872 8306)  
 to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for  
 Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA  
 22313-1450, on

10-5-2004

Date



LaShon Turner

10-5-2004

Date of Signature

Title: ELECTRICAL CONNECTOR APPARATUS AND METHOD

CUSTOMER NUMBER: 43138

Mail Stop Amendment  
 Commissioner for Patents  
 P.O. Box 1450  
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(A) AND (D)

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(a) and (d), Applicant brings to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached forms PTO SB08A/B. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed prior to receipt of the first Office Action on the merits.

Applicant relies, under 35 U.S.C. §120, on US Patent Application No. 09/518,650 filed March 3, 2000 (now U.S. Patent No. 6,796,829) for an effective filing date. An Information Disclosure Statement was submitted in that application which complies with 37 CFR §1.98 (a) – (c). With the exception of two references, all references cited herein were made of record in the

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parent application. Applicant therefore does not enclose copies of the references made of record in the parent case.

The two remaining references include Kooiman US 6,109,964, a copy of which Applicant does not supply because it is an issued US patent. Applicant does supply a copy of the last reference, an International Search Report (ISR) issued in PCT/US01/06878.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the listed documents, and evidence that consideration of relevant portions thereof by making appropriate notations on the attached forms.

It is believed that these references either taken alone or in combination do not disclose or suggest the invention claimed by the Applicant. However, it is the Applicant's desire to have these references available in the record for both the Examiner and the public to see. The Applicant specifically reserves all rights of privilege and confidence with respect to this matter and submission of this document is not to be construed as a waiver of those rights. Moreover, submission of this document should not be considered an admission that the references cited herein are proper prior art to the aforementioned application.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If it should be determined that any of the listed documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicant reserves the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

Attorney Docket No. 219507-00077

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this statement, please charge the fee to  
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Respectfully submitted,

  
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Jefferson Perkins  
Reg. No. 31,407

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

1 of 3

## Complete If Known

Application Number	10/781,243
Filing Date	February 18, 2004
First Named Inventor	Dale C. MCCARTHY
Art Unit	2833
Examiner Name	not yet assigned

Attorney Docket Number 219507-00077

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS				
Examiner Initials <sup>1</sup>	Cite No <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)		
		US- Re. 36,700	05-16-2000	McCarthy
		US- 3,683,320 A	08-08-1972	Woods et al.
		US- 4,739,126 A	04-19-1988	Gutter et al.
		US- 5,052,946 A	10-01-1991	Homolka
		US- 5,318,458 A	06-07-1994	Thoerner
		US- 5,573,423 A	11-12-1996	Lin et al.
		US- 5,934,937 A	08-10-1999	McCarthy
		US- 5,934,943 A	08-10-1999	McCarthy
		US- 6,062,897	05-16-2000	McCarthy
		US- 6,123,567	09-26-2000	McCarthy
		US- 6,244,892	06-12-2001	McCarthy
		US- 6,126,491	10-03-2001	McCarthy
		US- 4,408,822	10-11-1983	Nikitas
		US- 3,744,007	07-03-1973	Horak
		US- 5,607,320	03-04-1997	Wright
		US- 5,913,694	06-22-1999	Wright
		US- 6,102,737	08-15-2000	Gohdes
		US- 6,109,694	08-2000	Kurtz
		US- 5,066,248	11-19-1991	Gaver Jr et al.

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS				
Examiner Initials <sup>1</sup>	Cite No <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)		
		GB 1,109,914	04-18-1968	Hutchings
		DE OS 1,921,200	11-05-1970	Eggert
		GB 2,300,765 A	11-13-1996	Heatherington
		WO 97/34340 A1	09-18-1997	Duquerroy et al.

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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<sup>1</sup>EXAMINER Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy or this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>2</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>3</sup>See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>4</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>5</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>6</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>7</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.87 and 1.88. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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**Supplement for form 1448/PTO**

## **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 2 of 3

**Complete if Known**

Application Number	10/781,243
Filing Date	February 18, 2004
First Named Inventor	Dale C. MCCARTHY
Art Unit	2833
Examiner Name	not yet assigned
Attorney Docket Number	219507-00077

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of 3

**U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials <sup>1</sup>	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document Country Code <sup>2</sup> -Number <sup>3</sup> -Kind Code <sup>4</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>5</sup>

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<b>Sequence for form 1449/PTO</b>		<b>Application Number</b>	10/781,243
		<b>Filing Date</b>	February 18, 2004
		<b>First Named Inventor</b>	Dale C. MCCARTHY
		<b>Art Unit</b>	2833
		<b>Examiner Name</b>	not yet assigned
Sheet	3	of	3
		<b>Attorney Docket Number</b>	
		219507-00077	

## NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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**\*EXAMINER Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.**

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